

## Working With Wounded Warriors

Today's wounded warrior may be living with a prosthetic limb, overcoming the physical impact of years of field marches, or managing the effects of a traumatic brain injury. Despite differences in their recovery processes, they each share a special sense of service and resilience unique to wounded warriors. They are resolved to work hard and continue adding value to all areas where they serve.

## How You Benefit

Our veterans exhibit strong organizational skills, **commitment to mission accomplishment**, and assume high levels of trust.

Wounded warriors embody these principles as well as the ability to **overcome obstacles** and **adapt to new situations**.

A wounded warrior will add a **talented, trained professional** with strong leadership, accountability and flexibility to any organization.

## How to Get Involved

The transition from military service to civilian employment can be challenging for both service members and employers. Wounded warriors are often afforded a lengthy transition period to assist them in seeking and preparing for a new career. Transition coordinators, trained in developing career plans, are available to assist in their preparations. Employers can also take advantage of that transition period by coordinating with wounded warrior transition coordinators and implement hiring programs six months prior to anticipated end of active service.

### Offer Internships

- Develop an internship program timeline to help groom entry-level applicants or those changing career fields to teach them how to perform to industry standards.
- Many Marines welcome the opportunity to complete internships during their recovery to bolster their resumé, gain skills, and ease transition to civilian life.

### Connect with Transition Specialists

- Connect professionals from your organization to transition specialists at the WWR to share insights about applying, hiring, and working with veterans.
- Offer to train job seekers, through WWR transition, in areas such as resumé reviews, participation in mock interviews, and professional guidance on networking and career paths.

### Be Proactive and Informed

- The Department of Labor, Office of Disability Employment Policy, provides information and services for employers seeking accommodation ideas.
- Employer resources such as the Job Accommodation Network (JAN) provide free services for employers needing assistance with accommodations.

### Veteran-Minded Hiring

- Develop a mentor program for veterans. A strong mentorship program will facilitate integration and emulate the unit cohesion where veterans thrive.
- Connect your wounded warrior hires with senior leaders, other veterans, and top performers throughout your organization.

## How to Contact Us

For more information on how the Wounded Warrior Regiment's transition readiness program can help you bring wounded warriors, veterans, or military families into your workforce, call **703-432-1844** or email [wwrtransition@usmc.mil](mailto:wwrtransition@usmc.mil). Learn more about the Wounded Warrior Regiment at [www.woundedwarrior.marines.mil](http://www.woundedwarrior.marines.mil).

## Transitioning to Success

A service member's time in service, whether three years, 10 years, or a 20 year career creates a sense of purpose. The desire to be a member of a team, part of some greater good, and an example of integrity, purpose and character defines veterans. Civilian employment often looks and feels different, leading veterans to feel less engaged and as if their skills do not apply.

### Discovering a New Sense of Purpose

It is important to remain confident in the attributes gained as a service member such as leadership, loyalty, and mission-oriented focus. Employers may not always fully appreciate just how important those qualities are to a veteran, but they will understand how important that veteran is to their organizations. Veterans are uniquely qualified to build a team and develop a purpose that makes the world around them better.

### Support Along the Way

#### ■ U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)

VA administers a variety of benefits and services that provide financial and other forms of assistance to service members, veterans, their dependents, and survivors.

Visit: <https://www.va.gov/>

#### ■ Military OneSource

Military One Source compiles veteran resources and benefits – from education, training, job opportunities, health, housing, and assistance programs that can help you make the most of your life as a veteran.

Visit <http://www.militaryonesource.mil/veterans>

#### ■ National Resource Directory

The National Resource Directory (NRD) is a resource website that connects wounded warriors, service members, veterans, their families, and caregivers to programs and services that support them.

Visit <https://nrd.gov/>

## Non-Medical Counseling Resources

### Sergeant Merlin German Wounded Warrior Call Center

Available 24/7, the Wounded Warrior Call Center extends support to wounded, ill, and injured Marines through advocacy, resource identification, referral, information distribution, and care coordination by phone, text, and social media. **Wounded Warrior Call Center: 1-877-487-6299.**

### Suicide Prevention Resources

The suicide prevention hotline or veterans crisis hotline, **1-800-273-8255** and **Press 1**, is a confidential toll-free hotline. Find additional resources at <https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/>.

## Steps to Success

1. **Start Early:** It's never too early to explore your interests.
2. Create a **transition roadmap** with actionable steps to reach your retirement, employment, or education goals.
3. **Register with Veteran Affairs** and get familiar with resources.
4. **Join local veteran organizations.**
5. **Use your GI Bill** to gain greater expertise in a field.
6. **Network with other veterans** to find employment opportunities.
7. **Seek great mentors** with similar experiences and interests.